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APR 25 2006**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**To: USPTO EXAMINER LOIS ZHENGFax #: 571-273-8300Company: AET UNIT 1742From: MICHAEL BECKDate: APRIL 25, 2006Number of Pages: 10 (including cover sheet)MESSAGE: S.N. 10/665,592Resp. to O.A.

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1649-0008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Tucker D. Maurer) Examiner: Lois L. Zheng
) Art Unit 1742
Application No.: 10/665,597)
) Conf. No. 6362
Filed: September 19, 2003)
)
METHODS FOR PASSIVATING)
STAINLESS STEEL) April 25, 2006

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RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

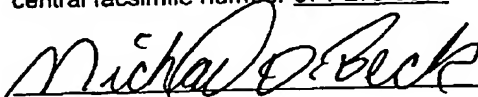
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following in response to the Office Action dated January 25, 2006. This response is being filed within the three-month period for response (to and including April 25, 2006) so no fees are believed to be due for this response; however, the Commissioner is requested to provide any extension of time that may be necessary and to deduct any associated fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 25, 2006 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300.



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